Chain santching and thefts at vijayawada railway station

292. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of the number of cases of chain snatching and thefts, the Railway Authorities are contemplating to set up vigilance cameras at all platforms of Vijayawada Railway Station;

(b) if so, the number of cameras to be installed; and

(c) by when, these cameras would be in position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, the security Department of South Central Railway has moved a proposal to install 13 Close Circuit Television cameras with other equipment at Vijayawada Railway Station for security proposes. The proposal is at the initial stage.

Convension of NG Rail Line in Lumding-Silchar Section

293. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work for conversion of narrow gauge rail line in the Lumding-Silchar section of the North-Eastern Frontier Railway into broad gauge has been pending far long; if so, since when;

(b) the reasons for the tardy progress of work;

(c) whether resource crunch is one major contributory factor; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to make more resources available to complete the work quickly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, conversion of Lumding-Silchar metre gauge line to broad gauge line is in progress as per availability of resources. A reference has been made to the Department of Development of North-Eastern Region for providing additional funds from non-lapsable pool of resources.